

FRENCH ASSEMBLY DEBATE ON INDOCHINA ON
9 MARCH

I. Fundamental issue:

- A. try for immediate settlement
with Viet Minh, or
- B. await Geneva.

II. Government intent on ending war at
Geneva.

- A. Paris embassy commented: "The
Government obviously bought time
in Indochina with the Geneva
conference, but the Assembly
only extended credit on a short-
term basis."

- 1. Embassy sees "insurmountable
task" to counter Assembly
pressure for negotiations
with Ho if Geneva fails.

- B. Foreign Ministry spokesman said
success of Geneva would depend

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on revision of American policy
in China.

III. Assembly resolution also stated
France relieved of obligations to
Associated States if latter repudiate
French Union.

A. This could foredoom current
negotiations with Vietnamese,
who demand dominion status.

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